

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 EA-06 ITF-05 FS-01 TRSE-00

OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ORM-01 SR-02 AID-05 IGA-01 OPR-02 EB-07 ABF-01

INRE-00 /080 W

----- 026168

O 051455Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4531

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2975

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS, DB, JO

SUBJECT BLOCKING OF VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN ASSETS

1. HEAD OF FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK IN AMMAN
HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT SOUTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR
BR. NGHIEM MY AND PERSONNEL OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE
EMBASSY HAVE APPLIED TO WITHDRAW PERSONAL AND OFFICIAL
EMBASSY FUNDS FROM ACCOUNTS WITH FNCB- AMMAN.

2. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY RVN EMBASSY AND AND
RECONFIRMED BY AMBASSADOR MY ORALLY THAT RVN AMBASSADOR
AND HIS STAFF NO LONGER ACT OR PURPORT TO ACT ON BEHALF
OF NEW REGIME IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND THAT ALL THE
VIETNAMESE STAFF OF THE EMBASSY ARE ASKING FOR POLITICAL
ASYLUM IN JORDAN. WE HAVE THEREFORE INFORMED FNCB AMMAN OF THIS
SITUATION PER PARA 1 STATE 102400 AND PARA 5 STATE 99538, AND
FNCB HAS RECOGNIZED THEIR STATUS UNDER 500.505 AND 500.506,
THEREBY UNBLOCKING THEIR PERSONAL ACCOUNTS.
FNCB HAS DONE SAME FOR THE ONE CAMBODIAN PERSONAL
ACCOUNT (\$83.28 FOR KHMER AMBASSADOR IN AMMAN), WHO HAS
SIMILAR STATUS PERMITTING UNBLOCKING.

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VIETNAMESE PERSONAL ACCOUNTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. TRAN DONG TU \$5.56
2. DR. NGHIEM MY \$121.48
- 3 NGUYEN VAN-EM \$323.40
4. TRAN DONG TU \$168.00
5. DR. NGHIEM MY J.D. 159.883
6. TRAN DONG TU J.D. 8.115

ALL THESE DEPOSIT-HOLDERS QUALIFY FOR STAUS PERMITTING UN-BLOCKING OF ACCOUNTS.

3. FNCB INFORMS US VIETNAMESE EMBASSY HAS TWO OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS WITH FNCB CONTAINING \$13,832.40 AND \$330.935 JORDANIAN DINARS RESPECTIVELY. PER PARA 2 STATE 102400, EMBASSY HAS INFORMED FN CB AMMAN THAT EMBASSY WILL CABLE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION FOR AMOUNTS T O BE UNBLOCKED AND THAT FNCB SHOULD NOT DISBURSE ANY FUNDS IN ACCOUNT UNTIL TREASURY LICENSE RECEIVED.

4. EMBASSY HAS CONSULTED WITH RVN AMBASSADOR SHO HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE LIST OF VIETNAMESE OPERATING EXPENSES AS BASIS FOR EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION ON DRAWDOWN. THIS IS SAME LIST RVN HAS BEEN ASKED TO SUBMIT TO GOJ FONMIN. EMBASSY WILL FORWARD LIST ASAP WHEN AVAILABLE.

5. INASMUCH AS VIETNAMESE EMBASSY TERMINATING MISSION HERE AND IS CONCERNED OVER PROVIDING FUNDS FOR SUBSISTENCE OF EMBASSY EMPLOYEES AND POSSIBLE FUNDS FOR TRAVEL TO THIRD COUNTRIES FOR SEEKING POLITICAL ASYLUM, WOULD DEPARTMENT CONSIDER SUCH EXPENSES LEGITIMATE OPERATING EXPENSES?

6. ANOTHER PROBLEM ARISES FORM FACT THAT GOJ FONMIN HAS INDEPENDENTLY MOVED TO SCRUTINIZE VIETNAMESE ASSETS, INCLUDING BANK ACCOUNTS, AS FONMIN SECRETARY-GENERAL INFORMED CHARGE' TODAY (AMMAN 2971). GOJ IS NOT YET AWARE USG IS CLAIMING JURISDICTION OVER FNCB-AMMAN DEPOSITS AND, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOIK A JURISDICTIONAL

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DISPUTE WITH GOJ ON THIS ISSUE. WE PROBABLY WILL HAVE TO INFORM GOJ OF OUR POSITION ON THIS ISSUE AT SOME POINT BUT HOPE THAT DEPARTMENT WILL TREAT SYMPATHETICALLY OUR ATTEMPTS TO WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH GOJ TO MINIMIZE FRICTION ON THIS ISSUE.
SUDDARTH

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